

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/577,101	HANBY ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Carolyn M. Bleck	3626	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11/10/05 and 1/23/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 19-39 (now renumbered 1-21).
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant

1. This communication is in response to the amendments filed 10 November 2005 and 23 January 2006. Claims 19-39 (now renumbered 1-21) are allowed.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

2. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with James Ewing, IV on 14 February 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

The title has been changed to "Method and System for Quoting, Issuing, and Administering Insurance Policies including Determining Whether Insurance Policies are Self Bill or List Bill."

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 19-39 (now renumbered 1-21) are allowed. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

(A) Claims 19 (now renumbered 1) and 31 (now renumbered 13) are directed towards a method for determining which insurance policies whose information is stored in a computerized renewal database are self bill policies and are list bill policies, and for said self bill policies:

1) determining whether contribution meets a predetermined contribution level, and responsive to the determining that the contribution does not meet the predetermined contribution level, checking to ensure that a census letter has been received, and responsive to the checking that the census letter has not been received, sending the census letter; 2) responsive to the determining that the contribution meets the predetermined contribution level, checking to ensure that an eligibility letter has been received, and responsive to the checking that the eligibility letter has not been received, sending the eligibility letter; 3) responsive to the checking that the eligibility letter has been received, determining whether participation meets a predetermined participation level, and responsive to the determining that the participation does not meet the predetermined participation level, printing a participation letter;

for said policies whose information is stored in said computerized renewal database which are said list bill policies:

1) determining whether contribution meets a predetermined contribution level, and responsive to the determining that the contribution does not meet the predetermined level:

checking to ensure that an eligibility letter has been received, and responsive to the checking that the eligibility letter has not been received, sending the eligibility letter; and

responsive to the checking that the eligibility letter has been received, determining whether participation meets a predetermined participation level, and responsive to the determining that the participation does not meet the predetermined participation level, printing a participation letter.

The closest prior art of record, Bosco et al. (5,191,522) teaches different types of processing for a list bill policy and a self-administered bill policy (col. 24 line 32 to col. 25 line 54). However, Bosco fails to teach the specific steps for processing a self bill or list bill policy.

Claims 20-30 (now renumbered 2-12) incorporate the features of claim 19 (now renumbered 1), and are allowed for the same reasons given above.

Claim 32 (now renumbered 14) incorporates the features of claim 31 (now renumbered 13), and are allowed for the same reasons given above.

Claim 33 (now renumbered 15) is directed towards a system comprising a renewal module for determining which insurance policies whose information stored in a renewal database are self bill policies and are list bill policies

and for said self bill policies:

1) determining whether contribution meets a predetermined contribution level, and responsive to the determining that the contribution does not meet the predetermined contribution level, checking to ensure that a census letter has been

Art Unit: 3626

received, and responsive to the checking that the census letter has not been received, sending the census letter; 2) responsive to the determining that the contribution meets the predetermined contribution level, checking to ensure that an eligibility letter has been received, and responsive to the checking that the eligibility letter has not been received, sending the eligibility letter; 3) responsive to the checking that the eligibility letter has been received, determining whether participation meets a predetermined participation level, and responsive to the determining that the participation does not meet the predetermined participation level, printing a participation letter;

for said policies whose information is stored in said computerized renewal database which are said list bill policies:

1) determining whether contribution meets a predetermined contribution level, and responsive to the determining that the contribution does not meet the predetermined level:

checking to ensure that an eligibility letter has been received, and responsive to the checking that the eligibility letter has not been received, sending the eligibility letter; and

responsive to the checking that the eligibility letter has been received, determining whether participation meets a predetermined participation level, and responsive to the determining that the participation does not meet the predetermined participation level, printing a participation letter.

The closest prior art of record, Bosco et al. (5,191,522) teaches different types of processing for a list bill policy and a self-administered bill policy (col. 24 line 32 to col.

Art Unit: 3626

25 line 54). However, Bosco fails to teach the specific steps for processing a self bill or list bill policy by a renewal module.

Claims 33-39 (now renumbered 15-21) incorporate the features of claim 33 (now renumbered 15), and are allowed for the same reasons given above.

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure. The cited but not applied prior art provides different types of insurance products:

a BI directory of employee benefit information system (Business insurance, pg. 18);

Apex data systems, MII Life, and ISCS, Inc..

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carolyn Bleck whose telephone number is (571) 272-6767. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday, 8:00am – 5:30pm, and from 8:30am – 5:00pm on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph Thomas can be reached at (571) 272-6776.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

6. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

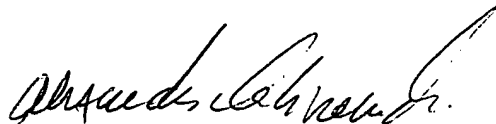
Or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300	[Official communications]
(571) 273-8300	[After Final communications labeled "Box AF"]
(571) 273-6767	[Informal/ Draft communications, labeled "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT"]

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the Knox Building, Alexandria, VA.

CB

February 14, 2006



ALEXANDER KALINOWSKI
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER